

seur you'll
fairly com-
and one of
had the sur-

about my experience. My
desire is that the story will give
folks insight into experiencing
cancer firsthand, hope in surviv-
ing it, inspire them to support
and love the caregivers and the
patients, and entertain the reader
in the process.

Once again I ran off in a direc-
tion with my eyes only partially
open. I thought writing the book
was going to be enough. I was
wrong.

A couple of months ago a
friend of mine named Michael
was diagnosed with brain cancer.
On August 2nd, I went to his
funeral. Writing and publishing a
book is a slow process, but like
the commercial says, "life
comes at you fast."

I need to be doing something
to help right now. Not just

a couple of pairs of
nice running shoes, some gear to
train in, and a belt that holds
water bottles. My salivary glands
haven't recovered yet and
breathing through my mouth
dries me out something fierce. I
got some guidance from a friend
I ran with in high school and
have been following her training
schedule to get ready for this
race. Just last Sunday I ran 14
miles.

Barely five months after my
last radiation treatment I am run-
ning again. I've been posting my
runs and times as my status on
facebook to let my friends see
how I'm coming through this,
and how their support is
involved in me finding strength
and confidence out of weakness
and fear. They respond with

See LETTER, Page 14A

unless they believe a bill is
going to pass.

It's an important aspect of the
legislative process to keep in
mind as Gov. Beverly Perdue
pursues a new type of state
budget reform.

Perdue, a longtime legislator
herself, essentially wants to rear-
range the process, laying down a
hot bed of coals before legisla-
tors.

To try to take politics out of
the process, that's what Con-
gress did when closing and con-
solidating military bases around
the country. It created BRAC,
the Base Realignment and Clo-
sure Commission, to recommend
base closures, and then required
itself to vote yes or no on the
recommendations, with no
changes.

Perdue has borrowed the pro-
cedure and the acronym. She
recently announcing the nine-
member Budget Reform and
Accountability Commission. The
commission's job is to come up
with recommendations to the
legislature designed to save tax-
payer money, and eliminate gov-
ernment waste and duplication.

Perdue would then like legis-
lators to take an up-or-down vote
on the recommendations, with
no changes.

Just one problem: Legislators
haven't agreed to do any such
thing, and many see the step as
ceding legislative power, giving
it to the executive branch.

Perdue, though, recognizes
that, unless you can force elected
representatives to make a public
choice, they sometimes won't
act in the broader interest.

Still, putting some heat to their
feet to ever get them into that
position may prove difficult.

same million into a value-added
equity translates into a savings
of at least 2 million hard-earned
tax dollars!

BRUCE POLLAK

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Owner of Cove parcel
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Southern Shores Dredge Project transforming debt to equity

To the editor:

The Town of Southern Shores
can greatly benefit from use of
the 6-acre "Cove" property
located on Highway 158 just
northeast of the Wright Memo-
rial Bridge for purposes of the
dredge project. In doing so, the
town can transform a taxpayer
deficit to a value-added equity
saving the citizens of Southern
Shores potentially millions of
dollars.

The Cove site offers a perma-
nent deposit area for dredge
spoils and will eliminate the
costly, bulky and deteriorating
process of transporting thou-
sands of truckloads of spoils
over town roads to secondary
locations as is required under the
current proposal.

The Cove was slated to
become a 36-unit condominium
project but the developer,
Republic Properties defaulted
and never got the project off the
ground. The site plan and build-
ing permit have since expired
and the property is now under

control by the landowner and
back-on the market.

The town has a golden oppor-
tunity to lease or purchase part
or all of the Cove property
below market price. Highway
acreage is always at a premium
in any market and is even more
compelling in the Outer Banks.
The Cove's 6 acres with almost
900 feet of frontage on the high-
way and the waterfront offer sig-
nificant value. As the Cove site
needs fill to make grade anyway,
its value actually increases as
spoils get deposited. Numerous
possibilities exist for civic, resi-
dential, or commercial use.

In talks with the town, the
Cove property has been offered
as a site for the dredge. Several
proposals have been discussed
including a lease/purchase where
the lease payments go toward the
sale price, thus allowing the
town to build equity as opposed
to building debt, under the cur-
rent dredge scenario.

The difference of spending
over a million dollars and getting
nothing in return or investing the

George W.
decisive leader
sm. President
Democratic
by suggest-
today" show
story against
be possible.
hurricane Gus-
Cuba as a
try 4 storm,
0 homes and
of dollars in
reported fatali-
pioneer Wal-
alski died in
age 81.

ays: Country
s is 90. Opera
Resnik is 87.
is 82. Actress
is 70. Actor
Cartoonist R.
er Jean-Claude
ss Peggy Lip-
edian Lewis
Timothy Bot-
David Paymer
ician Gerald
ctor Michael
isic producer
45. Actress
43. Country
baugh is 41.
rie Austin is
usician Lars
id) is 38.
Diaz is 37.
on Caffrey
personality
ock singer-
rrett (Reel
r Rich Cro-
NFL player
32. Rock
(Tantric;
31. Tennis
ck is 27.
Ross is 23.
is 22.
"My son,
, consent
:10.